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Abridged Biography of Prophet Muhammad

(peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him)

By

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(1115-1206 A.H.)

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One of the *Salaf* said: "The stories are the armies of Allāh," meaning that the obstinate man cannot reject them. The first of them is the story told by Allāh of Adam ﷺ and Iblees ^[1] up to when Adam ﷺ and his wife went down to the earth. This story explains the problems in a manner which is clear to anyone who reflects on it; and the end of the story is the Saying of Allāh, Most High:

﴿قُلْنَا اهْبِطُوا مِنْهَا جَمِيعًا فَإِمَّا يَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ مِنِّي هُدًى فَمَنْ تَبَعَ هُدَايَ فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ۝ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ﴾

"We said: 'Get down all of you from this place (the Paradise), then whenever there comes to you Guidance from Me, and whoever follows My Guidance, there shall be no fear on them, nor shall they grieve. But those who disbelieve and deny Our Ayāt (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) — such are the dwellers of the Fire. They shall abide therein forever.'"^[2]

And in another Verse:

﴿قَالَ اهْبِطَا مِنْهَا جَمِيعًا بَعْضُكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ عَدُوٌّ فَإِمَّا يَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ مِنِّي هُدًى فَمَنِ اتَّبَعَ هُدَايَ فَلَا يَضِلُّ وَلَا يَشْقَى ۝ وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَمَةِ أَعْمَى ۝ قَالَ رَبِّ لِمَ حَشَرْتَنِي أَعْمَى وَقَدْ كُنْتُ بَصِيرًا ۝ قَالَ كَذَلِكَ أَتَتْكَ آيَاتُنَا فَنَسِيتَهَا وَكَذَلِكَ الْيَوْمَ تُنسى ۝ وَكَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي مَنْ أَسْرَفَ وَلَمْ يُؤْمِنْ بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِ وَلَعَذَابُ الْآخِرَةِ أَشَدُّ وَأَبْقَى﴾

He (Allāh) said: 'Get you down (from the Paradise to the earth), both of you together, some of you are an enemy to some others. Then if there comes to you guidance from Me, then whoever follows My Guidance he shall neither go astray nor shall be distressed. 'But whosoever turns away from My Reminder (i.e. neither believes in

^[1] Iblees: Satan.

^[2] Sûrah Al-Baqarah 2:38-39

this Qur'ān nor acts on its teachings), verily, for him is a life of hardship, and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Resurrection.' He will say: 'O my Lord! Why have you raised me up blind, while I had sight (before).' (Allāh) will say: 'Like this Our Ayāt (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) came unto you, but you disregarded them (i.e. you left them, did not think deeply in them, and you turned away from them), and so this Day, you will be neglected (in the Hell-fire, away from Allāh's Mercy).' And thus do We requite him who transgresses beyond bounds [i.e. commits the great sins and disobeys his Lord (Allāh) and believes not in His Messengers, and His revealed Books, like this Qur'ān], and believes not in the Ayāt (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) of his Lord; and the torment of the Hereafter is far more severe and more lasting."^[1]

And His Guidance is the sending of the Messengers and He, Most Glorified fulfilled His Promise and sent the Messengers as bearers of glad tidings and warners, so that mankind should have no argument against Allāh after the coming of the Messengers. The first of them was Noah (Nûh ﷺ) and the last of them was our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ.

So take care, oh slave of Allāh, to know this rope which exists between Allāh and His slaves, which those who hold fast to it will be saved and which those who lose it will be destroyed. Take care then, to know what happened to your father, Adam ﷺ and your enemy, Iblees and what happened to Noah (Nûh ﷺ) and his people, to Hûd ﷺ and his people, to Abraham (Ibrâhîm ﷺ) and his people, to Lot (Lût ﷺ) and his people, to Mûsas ﷺ and his people, to Jesus ('Isā ﷺ) and his people and to Muhammad ﷺ and his people.

And know the stories related by the scholars regarding the events which took place during the life of the Prophet ﷺ and his people, what befell him when he was with them in Makkah and what happened to him in Al-Madinah.

^[1] Sûrah Tā Hā 20:123-127

And you should also know the stories related by the scholars concerning his Companions ﷺ, their circumstances and their deeds, so that you may know what is Islam and what is disbelief, because Islam today is something strange and most people are unable to distinguish between it and disbelief – and that is the destruction with which there is no hope of success.

As for the story of Adam ﷺ and Iblees, there is nothing to add to what Allāh has mentioned in His Book, but the story of his progeny (may be told):

The beginning of it is that Allāh extracted them from his backbone, in the manner of scattered particles and He took from them the covenants that they would not associate any partners with Him, as He, Most High says:

﴿وَإِذْ أَخَذَ رَبُّكَ مِنْ بَنِي آدَمَ مِنْ ظُهُورِهِمْ ذُرِّيَّتَهُمْ وَأَشْهَدَهُمْ عَلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ قَالُوا بَلَى شَهِدْنَا﴾

“And (remember) when your Lord brought forth the children of Adam – from their loins – their descendants and made them testify of themselves, (saying to them): ‘Am I not your Lord?’ They said:

‘Yes, we have testified.’”()^[1]*

And he (i.e. Adam ﷺ) saw the Prophets among them like lights and he saw a man among them who was one of the brightest of them and so he asked about him and He informed him that this was Dawūd^[2] ﷺ. He asked: “What is his lifespan?” He said: “sixty years.” Adam said: “I will give him forty years from my

^[1] *Sûrah Al-‘Araf* 7:172 (*) – and our Lord, Most Glorified continues to establish argument (against them) through His *Sunnah* in creation and sustenance and in His Signs and His Book and He takes the covenants and contracts, but most of the people are unaware of this, because they follow the religion of their fathers and the old men and so they commit *Shirk* like them. And if it is said to them: “Follow what Allāh has revealed,” they say: “No, we shall follow what we found our fathers following.” (Would they do that) even though their fathers did not understand anything nor were they guided (*Sûrah Al-Baqarah* 2:170)

^[2] Dawūd ﷺ: David.

lifespan.” The lifespan of Adam was a thousand years. And he saw among them the blind, the leper and the one who is put to trial and he said: “O Lord! Why did you not make them equal?” Allāh said: “I love to be shown gratitude.” Then when a thousand years all but forty had passed of Adam’s life, the angel of death came to him, but Adam ﷺ said: “I have still forty years remaining.” The angel said: “You gave them to Dawūd.” But Adam ﷺ had forgotten this and so had his offspring and so both he and they denied it.

Then when Adam ﷺ died, his descendants remained for ten centuries following the religion of their father, the religion of Islam, then they disbelieved after that and the cause of their disbelief was their excessive love of the righteous folk, as Allāh said in His Words:

﴿وَقَالُوا لَا تَذَرُنَّ آلِهَتَكُمْ وَلَا تَذَرُنَّ وَدًّا وَلَا سُوَاعًا وَلَا يَغُوثَ وَيَعُوقَ وَنَسْرًا﴾

“And they have said: ‘You shall not leave your gods, nor shall you leave Wadd, nor Suwā’, nor Yaghūth, nor Ya‘ūq, nor Nasr’ (these are the names of their idols)”^[1]

This is because those five persons were righteous folk who used to order them (to do good) and forbid them (from doing evil) and they died in a month and their companions feared that the religion would become diminished after them and so they made an image of each man in his meeting place in order to remind their people of their deeds whenever they saw their pictures, but they did not worship them. Then another generation came and they venerated them more than those before them had done, but they did not worship them. Then a long time passed and the people of knowledge died and after the earth had become empty of scholars, Satan placed in the hearts of the ignorant the suggestion that those righteous people did not make images of their elders except to seek intercession through them with Allāh and so they worshipped them.

When they did that, Allāh sent Noah (Nûh ﷺ) to return them to

^[1] *Sûrah Nûh*: 71:23